

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 305273 TOSEC 250097

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY NEA:ARDAY
APPROVED BY NEA:SSOBER
S/S -O P.JOHNSON
S -J.COVEY

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P 310052Z DEC 75 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 305273 TOSEC 250097

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF, UNSC

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM: PROPOSED CABLE TO AMMAN
ON UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON MIDDLE EAST(S/S:7525432)
REF: AMMAN 10000
FOR SECRETARY FROM SOBER

1. AMBASSADOR PICKERING HAS BEEN ASKED BY RIFAI FOR ANY
INFORMATION WE COULD GIVE HIM ABOUT ROY ATHERTON'S CON-
VERSATIONS IN CAPITALS OTHER THAN DAMASCUS (WHICH ROY
BRIEFLY DESCRIBED TO THE JORDANIANS DURING HIS AMMAN
STOP). RIFAI TOLD PICKERING AT THE SAME TIME THAT KHADDAM
WOULD BE COMING TO JORDAN AT THE END OF THIS WEEK, AT
WHICH TIME THEY WOULD BEGIN THE PROCESS OF DRAFTING A
RESOLUTION FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING. PICKERING HAS ASKED
IF THERE IS ANYTHING HE CAN PASS ALONG TO RIFAI ABOUT THE
SAUDI,EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI REACTIONS TO ROY'S VISIT, AND
WHETHER THERE IS ANYTHING WE WOULD WISH HIM TO CONVEY TO
THE JORDANIANS IN ADVANCE OF THE DISCUSSIONS WIT KHADDAM.
I BELIEVE WE SHOULD GIVE PICKERING SOMETHING TO SAY TO
RIFAI, BUT THINK HE SHOULD AVOID GETTING INTO DETAILS OR

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ISSUES THAT COULD LATER CAUSE US DIFFICULTIES IN OUR

RELATIONS WITH THE OTHER GOVERNMENTS WITH WHICH ATHERTON
TALKED. WITH THAT IN MIND, WE PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING
RESPONSE FOR YOUR APPROVAL:

2. BEGIN TEXT:

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

YOU MAY PASS ALONG TO RIFAI THE FOLLOWING REACTIONS TO
ATHERTON'S CONVERSATIONS IN EGYPT, SAUDI ARABIA AND
ISRAEL:

(A) THE EGYPTIANS URGED FLEXIBILITY ON OUR PART,
ALTHOUGH THEY EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT WITH
OUR CONCERN THAT WHAT THE SYRIANS APPEAR TO HAVE IN MIND
COULD RESULT IN RENEWED POLARIZATION AND A RETURN TO THE
PRE-1973 SITUATION. THEY HOPED WE COULD AVOID A VETO.
THE EGYPTIANS ALSO PREDICTED THAT THERE MIGHT WELL BE
SOME TENDENCY AMONG INVOLVED STATES TO OUT-BID ONE
ANOTHER IN TERMS OF RESOLUTION LANGUAGE. THEY REAFFIRMED
SUPPORT FOR RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338 AND THE GENEVA
CONFERENCE.

(B) WITH THE SAUDIS MOST OF THE DISCUSSION DEALT WITH
MATTERS OF A BILATERAL CHARACTER, INCLUDING SOME CURRENT
MILITARY SUPPLY ISSUES AND THE SAUDI CONCERN OVER RECENT
ARAB BOYCOTT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE U.S.

(C) THE ISRAELIS, AS WE HAD ANTICIPATED, TOOK A HARD
POSITION TOWARD THE COUNCIL SESSION, OPPOSING ANY CHANGE
IN THE NEGOTIATING FRAMEWORK THAT CONSISTS OF RESOLUTIONS
242 AND 338 AS WELL AS THE GENEVA CONFERENCE FORMULA.
THEY MAINTAINED THAT CHANGES IN THIS FRAMEWORK WOULD
BRING AN END TO THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS.

3. WITH RIFAI'S FORTHCOMING DISCUSSIONS WITH KHADDAM
IN MIND, YOU SHOULD SIMPLY RE-EMPHASIZE TO HIM OUR
CONCERN THAT THE COUNCIL MEETING COULD EVOLVE IN SUCH A
WAY AS TO PRESENT SERIOUS RISK OF DISRUPTING THE PROCESS
OF NEGOTIATION AND OF BRINGING TO AN END ANY MOVEMENT IN
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THIS DIRECTION. WE WOULD THEREFORE BELIEVE IT VERY
IMPORTANT THAT ALL PARTIES MAINTAIN MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY
AS THEY APPROACH THE COUNCIL MEETING, AND NOT LOCK THEM-
SELVES IN ON RESOLUTION LANGUAGE THAT WOULD PERMIT NO
OTHER OUTCOME BUT ONE OF CONFRONTATION AND RESULTING
STALEMATE. IN THE LARGER CONTEXT OF MIDDLE EAST SETTLE-
MENT EFFORTS, WE APPRECIATE THE PROBLEMS THE SYRIANS SEE,
BUT WE BELIEVE THE ONLY REALISTIC WAY FOR THEM AND FOR US

TO ACHIEVE OUR MUTUAL GOALS IS TO WORK TOGETHER AT A PACE
THAT IS REALISTIC AND POSSIBLE.END OF TEXT.

4. RECOMMENDATION:

THAT YOU APPROVE THE FOREGOING TELEGRAM.

APPROVE DISAPPROVE

5.DRAFTED BY NEA:ARLAY; APPROVED BY NEA:SSOBER
CLEARED BY S:JCOVEY ROBINSON

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NNN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: SECRETARY OCHO RIOS
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